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GERMANY.

Extracts from the international sanitary agreement of 1897 for preventing the introduction of plague.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 24, 1900.

SIR: I have the honor by direction of the Secretary of State to inclose for your information a copy of a dispatch from the consul at Leipsic reporting an international sanitary agreement entered into by European countries for the purpose of preventing the introduction and spread of the plague.

Respectfully,

THOS. W. CRIDLER,
Third Assistant Secretary of State.

HON. SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

[Inclosure.]

LEIPSIC, March 31, 1900.

SIR: The following extracts from the international sanitary agreement of March 19, 1897, published in the Reichs Gesetzblatt (law paper of the German Empire) concerning the regulations adopted for preventing the spreading of the plague through the agency of merchandise and private goods and effects, the aforesaid international sanitary agreement having been ratified by the Governments of Germany, Austria-Hungary, Belgium, Spain, France, Great Britain, Italy, Luxemburg, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Persia, Roumania, Russia, and Switzerland, will be of special interest at the present time.

All personal effects or merchandise for import which are favorable for harboring and propagating plague bacilli are subject to these regulations:

I. IMPORT AND TRANSIT.

Personal effects and merchandise coming from an infected district which might convey plague bacilli are subject to exclusion. They are as follows:

1. Linen worn on the body, used wearing apparel, used bedding, etc.; baggage or household effects accompanying travelers or immigrants are subject to special regulations mentioned in paragraph 1.
2. Rags, including those baled by hydraulic pressure for wholesale shipment.
3. Used bags, rugs, carpets, embroidery.
4. Raw skins, untanned and fresh hides.
5. Animal products, claws, hoofs, horsehair, hair, raw silk and wool.
6. Human hair.

Personal effects and merchandise transported through an infected district which are capable of conveying bacilli, or goods imported from an infected district which were shipped at least five days before the first case of the plague in said district, shall not be subject to regulations excluding the aforementioned articles provided that satisfactory proof to this effect can be furnished the quarantine officials.

Goods can not be detained any length of time at any quarantine station. Either the exclusion of the articles or goods or the disinfection and admission of the same are the only steps which can be taken.

II. DISINFECTION.

Traveling and household effects: All soiled and used linen, used wearing apparel and other articles belonging to the personal effects or household goods of travelers or immigrants coming from an infected district, which are regarded by the local authorities as having been exposed to plague bacilli, must be disinfected.

MERCHANDISE.

All goods which come from an infected district which are capable of conveying bacilli must be disinfected, otherwise the importation of the same is prohibited.

The mode of disinfection and where the same is to take place is to be decided by the authorities of the country into which the merchandise is imported. The disinfection must be conducted in such a manner that the goods will be as little damaged as possible.

All claims for damages arising from injury to goods by disinfection must be settled by parties concerned.

Correspondence, letters, printed matter, books, newspapers, publications in open envelopes, etc. (exclusive of packages by post) are not regarded as subject to exclusion nor to disinfection.

Respectfully,

BRAINARD H. WARNER, Jr.,
Consul.

Hon. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE.

Report from Bremen.

BREMEN, GERMANY, April 16, 1900.

SIR: I have the honor to report that bills of health were issued to 3 vessels for America during the past week, and 1 for the island of Porto Rico. The number of emigrants embarking was 1,414, with 1 detention for goitre and strabismus (severe). A note was made of others with slight physical disability, and a list of the same supplied to the immigration officer at the port of destination. The physical condition of the emigrants at this port continues excellent.

The steamship *Koenigin Louise*, which sailed for New York on April 14, had arrived a short while previously from Sydney, Australia. Although no suspicious cases of sickness occurred aboard, she was disinfected throughout with formaldehyd gas.

The sanitary report of Bremen just ended shows 2 cases of diphtheria and 3 of scarlet fever.

Respectfully,

JOSEPH B. GREENE,
Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Report from Hamburg.

HAMBURG, April 19, 1900.

SIR: I have the honor to report for the week ended April 14, 1900: The steamship *Palatia*, of the Hamburg-American Line, sailed Sunday, April 8, carrying 1,063 steerage passengers bound to New York. The steamship *Barcelona*, of the Union Line, sailed on the 12th carrying 259 steerage passengers to the same port for the Hamburg American Line. The number of immigrants has decreased somewhat on account of the coming of Easter tide. The Russian emigrants still maintain the majority, but the character of these has been better the past couple of weeks than before. Bills of health were issued to 7 vessels during the week, of which 5 carried cargo.

Respectfully,

A. C. SMITH,
Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Case of measles taken from the steerage passengers of the steamship Batavia.

HAMBURG, April 16, 1900.

SIR: I have the honor to report that at the inspection of the steerage passengers of the steamship *Batavia*, yesterday, a Russian emigrant appeared for embarkation having a profuse eruption of measles, probably in the fifth day of the disease. He was stopped and sent to the hospital by the inspecting physician of the emigration bureau, but as he was presumably confined with the other Russians at the barracks